



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

30 July 2012

Top Stories

- Powerful storms knocked out power to more than 100,000 homes and businesses in New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, cancelled more than 900 flights, and killed two people. – *Reuters* (See item [2](#))
- Ford Motor Company announced July 27 the recall of more than 400,000 model year 2001-2004 Escape vehicles because of problem with the throttle cable that could lead to uncontrolled acceleration and make it difficult to stop or slow down. – *U.S. Department of Transportation* (See item [8](#))
- A peer-to-peer botnet targeting banking customers has infected more than 675,000 systems, including those at 14 of the top 20 Fortune 500 companies, according to research released at the Black Hat security conference. – *eWeek.com* (See item [16](#))
- Authorities found more than 20 rifles and handguns and 40 boxes of ammunition at the home of a man they arrested who threatened to shoot people at a Prince George's County, Maryland facility of computer software and hardware manufacturer Pitney Bowes. – *Washington Post* (See item [34](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *July 27, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Clean-up of 55,000 gallon gas spill could take years.** Officials said environmental monitoring of a massive gasoline spill in Wisconsin could continue for months and perhaps years, the Associated Press reported July 27. A crew of about two dozen workers continued to clean up the site in the Washington County Town of Jackson. An estimated 55,000 gallons of gas leaked from a broken pipeline owned by West Shore Pipe Line Co. the week of July 20. The line has since been reopened. The U.S. Department of Transportation said the spill was one of the 10 largest in the country this year. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources spills coordinator said sampling of all wells within a half-mile radius of the spill was expected to be done by July 27, but the results might not be known until the week of July 30. The Sheboygan Press said the 98-mile pipeline provides fuel for northeastern Wisconsin and parts of Michigan.
Source: <http://www.wqow.com/story/19129370/clean-up-of-55000-gallon-gas-spill-could-take-years>
2. *July 27, Reuters* – (New York; Ohio; Pennsylvania) **Two dead, over 100,000 without power after fierce storms.** Two people were dead and more than 100,000 homes and businesses in New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania were without electricity July 27 after severe thunderstorms swept through the region July 26. The storms spawned a tornado that touched down in Elmira, New York, toppling trees and tearing off roofs, the National Weather Service said. Officials in Pennsylvania and New York reported two storm-related deaths. A woman camping in Genesee, Pennsylvania, near the New York State line was killed when she took refuge from the storm in her car and a tree fell on it, the director of emergency services for Potter County said. Pennsylvania accounted for a majority of those still without power, with more than 85,000 customers in the dark July 27, according to electric companies serving the region. Roughly 34,000 people in New York were without power, most of them in the southern tier region near Elmira, according to NYSEG. About 13,500 customers in eastern Ohio were still offline, according to AEP Ohio. The storm activity forced the cancellation of over 900 flights July 26, according to FlightAware, a Texas-based company that tracks the status of flights. The highest number of cancellations was at LaGuardia Airport in New York City.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/id/48352437>
3. *July 26, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Valero Energy Corp.'s refinery fire in St. Bernard Parish likely stemmed from earlier power outage.** A power outage July 20 at Valero Energy Corp.'s Meraux, Louisiana refinery, and attempts July 21 to restart the units, likely led to the July 22 fire in the refinery's crude oil unit and the foul odors and deep orange flames reported by neighboring residents, according to a Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) field interview form released to the New Orleans Times-Picayune July 26 and interviews with officials. The July 22 crude oil fire caused the refinery to shut down again and triggered additional flaring, said authorities and witnesses. The exact chemicals and the amount discharged likely will not be known until the week of July 30 when DEQ receives the mandatory report

from Valero. Valero must file a report postmarked at least 7 days following any discharges larger than permitted amounts.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/07/valero_energy_corps_refinery_f.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

See items [10](#), [17](#), and [25](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

4. *July 27, Vermont Digger* – (Vermont) **Vermont Yankee employees allow water to drain from spent fuel pool.** About 2,700 gallons of water from the spent fuel pool at Vernon, Vermont's Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant drained into a wastewater system July 22, the Vermont Digger reported July 27. The water drained about 6 inches over the course of about 30 minutes when employees who were working on the fuel pool cleanup system left drain valves open. Operators in the control room discovered the problem after an alarm system went off, said a plant spokesman. The radioactive water drained into a wastewater collection tank. Employees did not follow proper procedures, he said. Entergy Corp., which owns the plant, will review maintenance protocols, and noted the spill was not a safety issue. A Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman said the incident "fell in the category of not having to be reported because it was a very low level risk and it was caught quickly." Employees were not at risk of exposure to radiation because the amount of water over the assemblies provides ample shielding, he said.

Source: <http://vtdigger.org/2012/07/27/vermont-yankee-employees-allow-water-to-drain-from-spent-fuel-pool/>

5. *July 26, Charlotte Observer* – (South Carolina) **More problems found at Catawba nuclear plant.** Federal inspectors found months-old safety problems that could lead to extra inspections at the Catawba nuclear plant in York, South Carolina, which lost off-site power in April, the Charlotte Observer reported July 26. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported its initial findings in a letter sent to Duke Energy, which runs the plant. A Duke spokeswoman said the company was still assessing the report. On April 4, the plant lost power coming into the plant. Backup generators kicked in and the one operating reactor shut down safely. The NRC investigation traced the incident to a programming error when electrical modifications were made on the plant's Unit 1. The error meant off-site power would be inadvertently lost anytime the units' generator shut down due to a power fluctuation. In April, a ground fault on a reactor coolant pump caused the reactor, turbine, and generator to stop. Because of the programming

error, the unit also lost off-site power. The problem was corrected, the Duke spokeswoman said. The NRC assigned a preliminary “yellow” finding to the incident, meaning it had substantial safety significance.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2012/07/26/3407921/inspectors-find-more-problems.html>

6. *July 26, Bloomberg News* – (National) **Heat sends U.S. nuclear power production to 9-year low.** Nuclear-power production in the United States is at the lowest seasonal levels in 9 years as drought and heat force reactors from Ohio to Vermont to slow output, Bloomberg News reported July 26. High temperatures and droughts have limited cooling water efficiency and availability at several nuclear power plants. Generation for the 104 plants in America July 26 fell to 94,171 megawatts, or 93 percent of capacity, the lowest level for this time of year since 2003, according to reports from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and data compiled by Bloomberg News. Dry conditions have worsened recently, with at least 63.9 percent of the contiguous 48 U.S. states now affected by moderate to severe drought, the U.S. Drought Monitor said. “Heat is the main issue, because if the river is getting warmer the water going into the plant is warmer and [that] makes it harder to cool,” a NRC spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-07-26/heat-sends-u-dot-s-dot-nuclear-power-production-to-9-year-low>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *July 27, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Kawasaki Concours 14 brake drag and overheating issue.** Kawasaki announced July 27 the recall of 13,289 model year 2008-2012 Concours 14 (ZG1400 A/B/C/D) motorcycles. Due to a gap between the brake pedal and guard, debris can become trapped, creating a brake drag. This can cause the rear brake to overheat, leading to rear brake damage and lock-up or failure of the rear brakes. The front brakes may also be affected on ZG1400C models. If the brakes lock up or fail, there is an increased risk of a crash. Kawasaki will notify owners, and dealers will replace the rear master cylinder rod end and remove the brake guard (if installed.)

Source: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V343000&summary=true&prod_id=303629&PrintVersion=YES

8. *July 27, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Ford Escape speed control cable connector.** Ford Motor Company announced July 27 the recall of 423,634 model year 2001-2004 Escape vehicles equipped with 3.0L V6 engines and speed control manufactured from October 22, 1999 through January 23, 2004. Inadequate clearance between the engine cover and the speed control cable connector could result in a stuck throttle when the accelerator pedal is fully or almost-fully depressed. This risk exists regardless of whether or not speed control (cruise control) is used. A stuck throttle may result in very high vehicle speeds and make it

difficult to stop or slow the vehicle, which could cause a crash, serious injury, or death. Ford will notify owners, and dealers will repair the vehicles by increasing the engine cover clearance. Remedy parts are expected to be available in mid-August. Until then, dealers will disconnect the speed control cable as an interim remedy, if parts are not available at the time of an owner's service appointment.

Source: [http://www-](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V353000&summary=true&prod_id=203264&PrintVersion=YES)

[odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V353000&summary=true&prod_id=203264&PrintVersion=YES](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V353000&summary=true&prod_id=203264&PrintVersion=YES)

9. *July 27, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **VW victim of industrial espionage in China: report.** German auto giant Volkswagen (VW) has become the victim of industrial espionage in China, where its local partner has allegedly stolen engine designs, the business daily Handelsblatt reported July 27. For several months now, Chinese group FAW — with which VW has a joint venture — is believed to have copied one of the German group's engines in what sources described as “systematic and planned” espionage, the newspaper said. FAW plans to sell a model equipped with the engines in Russia, in competition with VW and Skoda models, the report continued. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hW-FQFU2vI96h4daVxNxMtRIMTHQ?docId=CNG.dbacd35b5162729fa3f62e1dbda6526d.2e1>
10. *July 26, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Electro-Coatings of Cedar Rapids agrees to pay EPA fine, install new equipment.** Electro-Coatings of Iowa Inc. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, agreed to pay more than \$19,000 in fines, and to spend at least \$110,000 to install new equipment to reduce the amount of chrome waste it generates following violations of hazardous waste regulations, the Associated Press reported July 26. The chrome, nickel, and zinc plating operation reached an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to pay the civil penalty. EPA documents stated a May 2011 inspection revealed many violations of the federal act that regulates hazardous waste. Violations included storage of hazardous waste for longer than 90 days without a permit, and hazardous waste container management violations. Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/8005ac79dbac4251b87b338d1ccb2d24/IA--Chrome-Waste-Violation>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *July 26, Associated Press* – (National) **California man pleads guilty in Iran missile case.** A California man pleaded guilty July 26 to seeking to export missile parts to Iran via the United Arab Emirates. He changed his plea to guilty in Chicago federal court. Prosecutors said an accomplice contacted him in 2009 and asked for his help buying and exporting 10 connector adapters used in an Iranian missile system. He allegedly negotiated a purchase for \$9,500 from an Illinois company that was part of a sting. The naturalized U.S. citizen from Iran will be sentenced October 30. He faces up to 20 years in prison for one count of attempting to export defense articles without a license

or approval.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/california-man-pleads-guilty-iran-missile-case-16863628#.UBLCYaCqHU0>

12. *July 26, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* – (National) **Two Broward men plead guilty to conspiracy to illegally export military plane parts to Venezuela.** Two Broward, Florida men have pleaded guilty to federal charges related to their roles in a conspiracy to illegally export various military airplane parts to Venezuela. An officer in the Venezuelan Air Force, who worked at the Venezuelan Military Acquisitions Office in Doral, pleaded guilty in early July to conspiring to violate the Arms Export Control Act by sending parts and supplies to the Venezuelan military between November 2008 and August 2010. Among the items he conspired to send to the Venezuelan military were F-16 ejection seats and munitions, unmanned aerial vehicle engines, T-56 plane engines, radars, and oxygen masks. In addition, the owner and president of SkyHigh Accessories Inc. in Davie pleaded guilty July 26 to conspiring to violate the Arms Export Control Act. A former Venezuelan Air Force pilot and a fourth man were also scheduled to plead guilty for their roles in the alleged conspiracy in federal court in Fort Lauderdale, according to court records.

Source: http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2012-07-26/news/fl-parts-to-venezuela-20120726_1_freddy-arguelles-kirk-drellich-skyhigh-accessories

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *July 26, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Fallout from fake audit causing NM financing authority to scale back loans for governments.** Cities, counties, and other local governments could find it harder to get low-cost loans from the New Mexico Finance Authority during the next several months because of fallout from a scandal over a fake audit of the agency's finances, the Associated Press reported July 26. The authority's governing board reviewed a proposal for limiting a loan program that finances projects such as sewers, roads, and other infrastructure in communities. The authority can only make loans using \$37 million in cash reserves because it is unable to issue new bonds without a final audit or unless it taps into a \$50 million line of credit previously arranged with a bank. Bonds are the primary way the authority finances projects and has money to lend. At issue in the unfolding scandal are the authority's financial statements, which were faked to indicate they had been audited by an outside accounting firm. Investors may have relied on the data in considering whether to buy the authority's bonds. Officials blamed a former controller for the fake audit, which was disclosed earlier in July. The former employee acknowledged putting together the fake audit but said no money was missing and the financial figures in the report were correct.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/5c3a7527f2b84285aa99fcd4a469779a/NM--Fake-Audit>

14. *July 26, Sacramento Bee* – (California) **Three accused of identity theft in skimming operation.** Three people were arrested on suspicion of identity theft in a case involving the use of skimming devices in the Sacramento, California area, the Sacramento Bee reported July 26. After a month-long investigation, sheriff's detectives along with officers from the California Highway Patrol, Sacramento Police Department, San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department, and the FBI, recovered thousands of credit card numbers, hundreds of counterfeit California ID cards, numerous counterfeit credit cards, and skimming devices. Authorities said they believed the majority of the skimming devices were installed inside gas pumps. The devices could not be detected from the outside of the pump but would be easily recognizable if the pump panel were opened. Installing the skimming devices would take only seconds, and opening the gas pump panel would not disrupt service or activate alarms, they said.
Source: <http://blogs.sacbee.com/crime/archives/2012/07/three-accused-of-identity-theft-in-skimming-operation.html>
15. *July 26, KPTV 12 Portland* – (Oregon) **'Bling Bandit' suspect arrested.** Police took into custody a suspect thought to be the "Bling Bandit" who committed multiple armed robberies in the Portland, Oregon area, KPTV 12 Portland reported July 26. The man was arrested for a parole violation. Federal bank robbery charges against him are pending. According to Portland police, further investigation including a fingerprint left at the scene and the execution of a search warrant, identified the man as the suspect. The three bank robberies occurred within 4 months with the bandit robbing the same U.S. Bank twice April 26 and July 16 as well as a Wells Fargo bank June 29.
Source: <http://www.kptv.com/story/19123121/bling-bandit-suspect-arrested>
16. *July 25, eWeek.com* – (International) **'Gameover' financial botnet compromises nearly 700,000 victims.** A peer-to-peer botnet targeting banking customers has infected more than 675,000 systems, including those at 14 of the top 20 Fortune 500 companies, according to research released July 25 at the Black Hat security conference. The Gameover botnet uses a private version of the Zeus framework and targets the customers of banks in the United States, Europe, and Asia. To infect more systems, the bot operators used a third-party spam botnet, known as Cutwail, to send out copies of legitimate emails that were modified to spread malware. People who click on a link in the email will be sent to a server that redirects them to another system hosting the Blackhole exploit kit. "The Blackhole kit is not dropping the malware itself," a researcher said. "Instead, it is dropping a downloader known as Pony, which is interesting in that it is not just a loader, but it steals your HTTP, FTP, and email credentials." Once Pony installs Zeus on the compromised system, the software establishes a communications channel back to the attackers using peer-to-peer networking, which makes the botnet harder to dismantle because there are no central command-and-control servers to shut down. Infected machines then contact a hard-coded list of peers to get updates and commands.
Source: <http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Security/Gameover-Financial-Botnet-Compromises-Nearly-70000-Victims-304658/>

Transportation Sector

17. *July 27, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Arkansas) **Tanker overturns on Hwy 67, catches fire closing highway.** An 18-wheeler overturned on Highway 67 in Jackson County, Arkansas, between Swifton and Alicia, shutting down the highway July 27. The Jackson County Sheriff's Department said the tanker appeared to overcorrect causing it to overturn and spill its load catching fire. Police said the tanker was hauling 7,900 gallons of ethanol. Highway 67 was shut down in all directions while crews were working to stop the leaking tanker and put out the fire. Officials expected the road to be closed for several hours. Union Pacific shut down all railroad service at the time due to the proximity to the railroad tracks.

Source: <http://www.kait8.com/story/19129760/tanker-overturns-on-hwy-67-catches-fire-closing-highway>

18. *July 25, KBAK 29 Bakersfield; KBFX 58 Bakersfield* – (California) **Big rig driver killed in triple truck fiery crash.** A truck driver was killed overnight in a chain-reaction crash that shut down traffic for 7 hours on northbound Highway 99 on the northern edge of Bakersfield, California, KBAK 29 Bakersfield and KBFX 58 Bakersfield reported July 25. Two semi-trucks and a dump truck were heading north July 25 in a construction zone. The rear truck driver, who was hauling produce, failed to slow down, and plowed into the dump truck in front of him, the California Highway Patrol said. The impact forced the middle truck's dump trailer, which was carrying cement, to jackknife. It also pushed the middle truck into the lead truck, which was hauling wood pallets. All three trucks caught fire. The driver in the rear truck was killed in the crash.

Source: <http://www.bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/Big-rig-driver-killed-in-triple-truck-fiery-crash-163712226.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

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Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *July 27, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Pennsylvania; National) **Thieves increasingly target restaurants' used cooking oil.** With biodiesel production increasing and prices for feedstocks soaring, used cooking oil, a product that Pennsylvania restaurants once paid to get rid of, is now a commodity targeted by thieves, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported July 27. Greenworks Holdings, a group of companies that collect used cooking oil and convert it into biofuel, serves about 13,000 restaurants, mostly in the northeastern

States. “And we regularly lose used cooking oil from about 1,000 of those restaurants every month. It’s ridiculous,” said the president of a subsidiary, the Association of Restaurant Owners for a Sustainable Earth (AROSE), based in Lehigh Valley. Typically, restaurants put used cooking oil out back in bins provided by the collection companies. In an effort to look legit, some thieves have even stolen stickers with the logos of oil collection companies. They peel them from restaurant oil bins and put them on their trucks. In the past, waste cooking oil was collected and used as a feed additive for livestock. All the oil Greenworks collects — more than 3 million gallons a month — goes into fuel. With the rash of thefts, the president of AROSE based in Lehigh Valley said Greenworks was resorting to putting locking devices on oil-collection bins — a solution with an estimated cost of \$6 million.

Source:

http://www.philly.com/philly/health/20120727_Thieves_increasingly_target_restaurants_used_cooking_oil.html?viewAll=y

20. *July 27, WWL 4 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Hubig’s Pies facility a total loss due to intense, five-alarm blaze.** A five-alarm fire raged at the iconic Hubig’s Pies facility July 27 in the Faubourg Marigny neighborhood of New Orleans, resulting in a total loss of the building, according to the New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD). Flames shot out of the back of the building, the area where pie production occurred. An employee noticed smoke coming out of the fryer room, where the fire is assumed to have started, said the NOFD. Firefighters initially entered the building through a front garage, but this entrance collapsed as the fire spread. However, after the front wall collapsed, firefighters were able to directly spray the flames, said the NOFD. At least 32 trucks and 95 personnel responded, as the fire intensified from a two-alarm to a five-alarm in the structure. The main concern for firefighters was to keep the walls on the side from collapsing on neighboring locations. Several nearby homes in the area were threatened.

Source: <http://www.wwltv.com/news/local/orleans/Intense-blaze-breaks-out-at-Hubigs-Pies-facility-163989366.html>

21. *July 26, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (California) **California firm recalls chicken and yam pie products due to misbranding and an undeclared allergen.** Piccadilly Fine Foods, a Santa Clara, California establishment, recalled approximately 79 pounds of chicken and yam pie products that may include a curry paste containing shrimp, a known allergen not declared on the product label, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced July 26. The products subject to recall are shipping cases containing 24 “Top Nosh Farmer’s Market Chicken and Yam with Coconut Curry Pies” and individual 5.5-ounce “Top Nosh Farmer’s Market Chicken and Yam with Coconut Curry Pies.” The products were produced June 29, and sold to a San Jose, California-area distributor for further distribution. The problem was discovered by FSIS during a routine label review and occurred as a result of a temporary change in the ingredient formulation for the product. FSIS and the company have not received reports of adverse reactions.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_046_2012_Release/index.asp

22. *July 26, Food Safety News* – (National) **Multistate Salmonella outbreak linked to raw tuna grows to 425.** Salmonella from a recalled raw tuna product served in sushi and known as Nakaochi scrape has now sickened at least 425 individuals in 28 states and the District of Columbia. Of those ill, 55 have been hospitalized, Food Safety News reported July 26. In its final outbreak update, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated the outbreak appears to be over, though additional cases may surface in the next several months if unaware food establishments continue serving the product, which is sold frozen and has a long shelf-life. The victims of the tuna scrape outbreak were infected with one of two Salmonella strains. In total, 410 fell ill with Salmonella Bareilly, while Salmonella Nchanga sickened 15. The recalled Nakaochi scrape was produced by Moon Marine USA Corporation. Retailers carrying the product are asked not to serve it.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/07/multistate-salmonella-outbreak-linked-to-raw-tuna-grows-to-425/>
23. *July 26, Food Safety News* – (Michigan) **BBQ beef sandwiches recalled for undeclared soy, wheat flour.** A Michigan-based company is recalling its barbecue beef sandwiches because they contain soy and wheat flour, both known allergens, which are not listed as ingredients on packaging, Food Safety News reported July 26. Spillson's LTD of Monroe, Michigan, issued a voluntary recall of its 4 ounce Texas BBQ Beef sandwiches July 26 after a review of the product's label showed that the two allergens were not listed on it. The product was sold in Monroe, Michigan, at area convenience stores. It is marked with a best by date between July 20, 2012 and August 3, 2012. The sandwiches are wrapped in clear plastic with a white label on the front. To date, no adverse health effects have been associated with consumption of this product.
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/07/bbq-beef-sandwiches-recalled-for-undeclared-soy-wheat-flour/>

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Water Sector

24. *July 27, KGTV 10 San Diego* – (California) **Water main break floods homes in Vista.** Crews were working to repair a water main break July 27 that forced residents to evacuate their homes in Vista, California. Crews discovered gallons of high pressure water gushing through torn pavement and one home was flooded under a foot of water. Water department officials said a 6-inch-line broke and 20 homes lost water service. Crews ripped up a retaining wall to replace 13 feet of the pipe. It will take some time to dig up the streets and restore service, according to officials.
Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/31310924/detail.html>
25. *July 26, Arizona Republic News; KPNX 12 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **3 sickened by fumes at Cave Creek plant.** Three people were reported experiencing dizziness and trouble breathing July 26 after being exposed to sulfuric acid at a waste water treatment plant in Cave Creek, Arizona. It was not immediately clear if the chemical was released into the air or if it spilled during the incident, a spokesman for Rural Metro Fire Department said. A truck driver exposed to the chemical reported feeling dizzy. Another person,

who is believed to have asthma and was standing nearby, was experiencing trouble breathing.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/2012/07/26/20120726scottsdale-chemical-sickened-by-fumes-cave-creek-plant.html#ixzz21pMbh5Zt>

26. *July 25, Prescott Daily Courier* – (Arizona) **Humboldt: Water company’s warning came 2 months late.** The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) required the Humboldt Water System (HWS) to conduct quarterly testing of its nitrate levels after test results March 15 revealed higher than maximum contaminant levels, the Prescott Daily Courier reported July 26. Nitrate levels of 11 milligrams per liter (mg/L) were in samples pulled in March; the maximum level allowed by federal and State law was 10 mg/L. The ADEQ sent the water company a notice of violation July 23, noting seven code violations, including “distribution of water in excess of the MCL for an inorganic chemical,” nitrate, and failure to provide public notice of the excessive chemical in a timely manner. Although further test April 17 showed the nitrate levels had dropped to 8.7 mg/L, HWS posted a warning notice at the Chevron Market and the Humboldt Post Office May 15, which warned that giving water to infants 6 months old and younger could cause serious illness and, if untreated, could lead to death. The 2-month delay in notification has left customers of the HWS - about 323 service connections on a 300-meter distribution system - wondering whether the water is safe to drink or not.

Source:

<http://www.dcourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=109059>

27. *July 25, Hudson-Catskill Newspapers* – (New York) **Bolt hits water plant.** An emergency alert went out to all water users of New York’s Coxsackie water treatment plant July 23, notifying them of a lightning strike that caused the plant’s control system to fail. “During the storm on Monday afternoon, the Coxsackie Water Treatment Plant took a direct lightning strike and knocked out the operating control system which supplies the chemical feeds,” the town’s mayor said. The problem was fixed, Hudson-Catskill Newspaper reported July 25, but there was so much turbidity to the water supply that a boil water alert went into effect immediately until further notice. The storm also caused power outages around the area, including the towns of Coxsackie, Athens, New Baltimore, Catskill, and Cairo, according to a spokesman at Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corp. Nearly 2,000 customers were without power around the county, but power was restored to many within a few hours.

Source:

<http://www.thedailyemail.net/articles/2012/07/25/news/doc500f84d835d68367690172.txt>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *July 27, KWTX 10 Waco* – (Texas) **Waco: Man steals \$10,000 in computer equipment from local hospital.** Waco, Texas police were asking for the public’s help

in identifying a man they said walked into Providence Health Center July 25 and stole almost \$10,000 worth of computer equipment. Security cameras at the hospital recorded the man entering the hospital's information technology department from which he took seven laptop computers, two docking stations, an iPad, and two external hard drives valued at an estimated \$9,700.

Source: <http://www.kwtx.com/ourtown/home/headlines/Waco--Man-Steals-10000-In-Computer-Equipment-From-Local-Hospital-163920966.html>

29. *July 27, New York Daily News* – (Florida) **Florida hospital worker stole dead patient's credit card info hours after he dies.** A patient registration representative at Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota, Florida was arrested July 25 after being accused of swiping credit card numbers from a patient in June who had died only hours earlier. Police claimed the staffer paid for airline tickets, phone bills, and even bridal shoes. She allegedly racked up purchases and payments totaling \$1,186 for her personal benefit. With the help of the hospital, investigators determined she had access to the 63-year-old victim's personal cards and identification information when he arrived at the emergency room June 10. Police said she admitted to jotting down the victim's driver's license information and credit card numbers, and then used them to make purchases. A spokeswoman for the hospital told ABC News that she was first suspended and then terminated June 29. Audits are performed by the hospital to make sure its workers are taking down patient information for legitimate reasons, according to ABC News.

Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/florida-hospital-worker-stole-dead-patient-credit-card-info-hours-dies-police-article-1.1123008>

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *July 27, Daytona Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **U.S. Marshals: Ormond man made death threats against Volusia officials.** The U.S. Marshals Service warned Volusia County, Florida Council members before their meeting July 26 that an Ormond Beach man told a local attorney he is "going postal" and would kill county government officials. A former beach concessionaire who sued the county when he lost his vendor contract and is currently in bankruptcy court with \$300,000 in debt, was being sought by marshals, who say he threatened to kill county government officials, his bankruptcy attorney, and a trustee, an advisory by the U.S. Marshals Service states. He told his attorney he owns several firearms and was "going postal," according to the advisory. An extra deputy was posted inside council chambers by the Volusia County Sheriff's Office during the July 26 meeting. The sheriff's intelligence unit told council members via email that the man "should be considered armed and dangerous." The county manager said these types of threats are not common, and officials are only notified if the threat is believed credible.

Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2012/07/27/us-marshals-ormond-man-made-death-threats-against-volusia-officials.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

31. *July 27, WTHR 13 Indianapolis; NBC News* – (Indiana) **Indiana cops hunt gunman who shot 2 police officers, killed dog.** State and local police backed by SWAT officers and a helicopter searched early July 27 for a gunman who shot two officers and killed a police dog in the central Indiana town of Pendleton, authorities said. A Madison County, Indiana police spokesperson told NBC News that the suspect was still at large and considered armed and dangerous. Law enforcement officers were “actively working” on the case and local residents were advised to remain inside, the spokesperson said. A spokesman for the Madison County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, told NBC station WTHR 13 Indianapolis that officers were involved in a routine call late July 26 when multiple shots were fired, with at least two people sustaining injuries. Two officers were taken to area hospitals. The police spokesperson said a dog working with the officers was shot and killed during the incident.
Source: <http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/07/27/12986069-indiana-cops-hunt-gunman-who-shot-2-police-officers-killed-dog?lite>
32. *July 27, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Two arrested in connection with theft of police assault rifle in New Bedford.** Two men were arrested in connection with the theft of a police-issue assault rifle and 30 rounds of ammunition from an unmarked police car parked in an officer’s driveway, New Bedford, Massachusetts officials said July 27. A range of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies were enlisted in the 2-week search for the weapon. The cooperation paid off when police in Fairhaven received information on the weapon, city officials said. The two men were set to be arraigned July 27 in court on multiple charges, including receiving stolen property in excess of \$250, and three counts of possession with intent to sell an assault weapon and/or feeding device. The case is still under investigation and more arrests are anticipated, said the New Bedford police chief.
Source: <http://www.boston.com/metrodesk/2012/07/27/new-bedford-officials-say-they-have-recovered-police-issued-assault-weapon-ammo/w5gJ04nud5mz1LdpqaUdSI/story.html>
33. *July 26, New London Day* – (Connecticut) **Montville prison under lockdown following white powder discovery.** A building at the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center in Uncasville, Connecticut, was placed on lockdown early July 26 after a staff member doing routine mail inspection opened an envelope containing white powder. A department of correction spokesman said State police and the State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection were notified following the incident in the Radgowski building. He said the four staff members who were in the area were segregated and examined. The powder was gathered for analysis and the investigation is continuing, he stated.
Source: <http://www.theday.com/article/20120726/NWS04/120729793/1047>

For another story, see item [40](#)

Information Technology Sector

34. *July 27, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Maryland police may have thwarted shooting.** Authorities have arrested a man who referred to himself as “a joker” and threatened to shoot people at his former workplace in Prince George’s County, Maryland, investigators said July 27. Investigators said that the man called Pitney Bowes the week of July 23 and threatened to carry out a shooting there. He later called back and acknowledged that it was not smart to be making such threats over the phone. Pitney Bowes called Prince George’s police July 25. The man lives in Crofton, and he was taken into custody there by Anne Arundel County police. Police found more than 20 rifles and handguns and 40 steel boxes of ammunition at his home, investigators said. The suspect was being held at an Anne Arundel hospital for medical evaluation, authorities said. Pitney Bowes said in a statement that the suspect arrested was an employee of a subcontractor to Pitney Bowes. He has not been on any Pitney Bowes property in more than 4 months. “What we believe was a significant threat has been averted,” the Prince George’s police chief said. Authorities wrote in an affidavit that they believed that the suspect was referencing the movie theater shootings in Colorado when he called himself a joker.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/maryland-police-may-have-thwarted-shooting/2012/07/27/gJQAC6AuDX_blog.html
35. *July 26, IDG News Service* – (International) **Twitter blames two-hour failure on dual data-center crashes.** A Twitter outage July 26 that lasted as long as 2 hours for some users was caused by separate data centers failing at nearly the same time, the company said in a blog post. Twitter went down between about 8:20 a.m. and 9 a.m. Pacific Time and was back in action by about 10:25 a.m., wrote the vice president of engineering. Two data centers that operate in parallel for redundancy both failed, in what the vice president called an “infrastructural double whammy. What was noteworthy about today’s outage was the coincidental failure of two parallel systems at nearly the same time,” he wrote. “We are investing aggressively in our systems to avoid this situation in the future.” It was Twitter’s second outage in about 6 weeks. The company blamed the June 21 outage on a cascading bug, a type of problem that spreads from one software element to others.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9229705/Twitter_blames_two_hour_failure_on_dual_data_center_crashes
36. *July 26, Network World* – (National) **Study: Microsoft repeatedly ranks as top U.S. spammer.** Microsoft has topped a list of biggest U.S. spammers for 5 out of the past 15 months, and for some of those months it ranked No. 1 in the world, according to a University of Texas (UT) study to flag the worst offenders in an effort to get them to improve their security. Based on results culled from spam block lists, researchers found that Microsoft IP addresses were responsible for a big enough volume of spam to top their SpamRankings list for the United States in April and May 2011, and in March, April, and June 2012, said a researcher with the project at McCombs School of Business, UT Austin. The project analyzes raw data about where spam traffic comes from and tracks down what organization owns the offending IP addresses. The raw data

gathered by groups outside UT, and the Microsoft rankings are based on those compiled by Passive Spam Block List. The researcher said one factor in the high volume of Microsoft spam may be that part of it is MSN, the Microsoft portal that includes its ISP. “Its purpose is to let people have access to the Internet, and that means people have their own computers, which may have all sorts of security problems,” he said. Outbound spam from an organization indicates a security problem, he said, sometimes because machines have been compromised by botnets and sometimes because users have fallen for phishing ploys.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2012/072512-microsoft-spammer-261183.html?page=1>

37. *July 25, Network World* – (International) **Black Hat: Cyber-espionage operations vast yet highly focused, researcher claims.** Cyber-espionage operations across the Internet are extensive yet highly targeted, said a research director at Dell SecureWorks, speaking at the Black Hat Conference in Las Vegas. His paper, titled “Chasing APT” released July 25, pinpoints 200 unique families of custom malware used in cyber-espionage campaigns that many refer to as “advanced persistent threats.” It is not just governments targeting other governments or trying to steal corporate secrets — private security companies also are involved in these break-ins even while claiming to offer “ethical hacking services.” In terms of its technical analysis of APTs, SecureWorks stated it believes that along with the 200 unique families of custom malware used in cyber-espionage intrusions, there appear to be more than 1,100 domain names registered by cyber-espionage actors for use in hosting malware command-and-control or spear-phishing, and nearly 20,000 subdomains or purposes such as “malware C2 resolution.” But unlike other types of criminal botnets that “can contain millions of infected computers,” cyber-espionage is far more focused, with “tens of thousands of infected computers spread across hundreds of botnets, each of which may only control a few to a few hundred computers at a time,” the Dell SecureWorks report said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9229658/Black_Hat_Cyber_espionage_operations_vast_yet_highly_focused_researcher_claims?taxonomyId=82&pageNumber=1

For more stories, see items [16](#), [28](#), and [38](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

38. *July 26, Door County Daily News* – (Wisconsin) **Fiber problem causes Internet outage.** Quite a bit of Door County, Wisconsin, had to do without Internet service for a

time early July 26. The network administrator for Online Door County, a local Internet service provider said, it appeared that Charter Communications' data network to Door County went down early July 26 and was down for about an hour and a half. The outage affected more than 1,000 customers of Online Door County and an undetermined number of Charter customers. He stated his company has taken steps to prevent future outages. He said they placed an order with Nsight 9 weeks ago to have more fiber optic installed but that installation had not yet taken place.

Source:

<http://www.doorcountydailynews.com/news/details.cfm?clientid=28&id=40505>

For another story, see item [35](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

39. *July 27, Barrow Journal* – (Georgia) **Historic Winder church destroyed in blaze.** A July 26 fire, apparently caused by a lightning strike, destroyed a restored, historic Methodist church near Winder, Georgia. The Winder fire chief said the fire at the Sanctuary of the Holy Spirit occurred during a short-lived, but intense, lightning storm. When city firefighters responded to a report of heavy black smoke coming from the top of the church, they discovered flames on the left side of the roof. They attempted to go inside, but the fire was too far advanced. They went back outside, and their task then became to prevent the flames from spreading to nearby businesses and homes. Every piece of the city's firefighting equipment was used, and Barrow County Emergency Services also responded with engines and emergency medical units staffed with personnel who also fight fires.

Source: <http://www.barrowjournal.com/archives/7026-Historic-Winder-church-destroyed-in-blaze.html>

40. *July 27, New England Cable News; Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **\$2m fire destroys warehouse in Charlton, Mass.** A five-alarm fire destroyed a warehouse July 26 at a mill complex in Charlton, Massachusetts, as officials try to determine what caused it. Six firefighters suffered minor injuries and were released after being treated at local hospitals. Damage was estimated at \$2 million. Firefighters from 20 towns battled the fire at the Charlton Woolen Mill. Fire erupted from the building for more than 2 hours and explosions could be heard, possibly from old propane tanks inside. Since there is no municipal water supply and no fire hydrants in Charlton, water had to be brought in by tankers. The complex housed several businesses. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was on scene July 27 to determine if any toxic pollutants were in the building and released by the fire.

Source: http://www.necn.com/07/27/12/2m-fire-destroys-warehouse-in-Charlton-M/landing_newengland.html?blockID=747067&feedID=4206

41. *July 27, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **22 storage units destroyed in overnight fire.** A fire in the Millcreek section of Salt Lake County, Utah, July 27 wiped out part of a business and destroyed the property of several families. The fire started July 27 at

GK Enterprise Store All Self Storage and destroyed 22 storage units. It quickly spread from unit to unit, but each unit was locked, making it difficult to put the fire out. The battalion chief said the storage units contained all sorts of items, including vehicles, tools, and boats. When firefighters arrived they took a defensive attack to protect nearby homes. A second alarm was called out and eventually 50 firefighters were responded. The Unified Fire Authority battalion chief said, “[It was] a large, heavy volume fire. Every unit was fully engulfed in flames at that point.” Fire officials said the fire was started by a renter who was using power tools, including a grinder, in his unit when sparks ignited.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=21436545>

42. *July 27, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Arkansas) **Fire destroys Regency Inn; Red Cross to provide disaster recovery assistance.** The Jonesboro Fire Department deemed a motel in Jonesboro, Arkansas unlivable after a fire ripped through several rooms July 25. Fire officials are investigating the blaze that destroyed the Regency Inn. The fire department said the fire displaced about 30 people who lived at the motel. Several families have now moved into a temporary shelter set up by the American Red Cross. The Red Cross promised to keep the shelter open as long as it is needed, said the Northeast Arkansas disaster zone manager.

Source: <http://www.kait8.com/story/19115471/fire-destroys-regency-inn-red-cross-to-provide-disaster-recovery-assistance>

43. *July 26, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Lake Elmo swimming pond closed temporarily.** The Lake Elmo Park Reserve swimming pond, possibly the most popular beach around Minneapolis closed for at least a day to allow for treatment for a potential organism that might have caused illnesses in recent swimmers. Whether swimmers who have experienced diarrhea picked up the bug while swimming in the pond has not been determined, county officials said July 26, but they decided to “super chlorinate” the pond to eradicate any bug in the water. Two people with laboratory-confirmed cases of Cryptosporidium, an organism that causes gastro-intestinal illnesses, reported they swam in the pond in the 2 weeks before the onset of their illness. Two additional laboratory-confirmed cases reported outside the incubation period also could also be related. High levels of chlorine needed to kill potential organisms will mean the pond would be closed at least through July 27, said the park manager.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/east/163924006.html?refer=y>

44. *July 26, CNN* – (Pennsylvania) **Five arrested, accused of terrorizing Jewish camp in Pennsylvania.** Three adults and two juveniles were arrested July 25 for allegedly terrorizing a Jewish camp in Wayne County, Pennsylvania. Authorities said the suspects intimidated Jewish campers and staff at Camp Bonim on three separate occasions July 14 and 15. One suspect allegedly drove a white Ford pickup truck “recklessly” through the camp, “narrowly missing several campers and staff” and damaging fields, yards, buildings, and fences, the police criminal complaint said. The group also allegedly used paintball guns to shoot Jewish campers and staff, hitting a camper leaving a synagogue, according to the complaint. Authorities alleged members of the group shouted anti-Semitic slurs at campers and staff. The three adult suspects have been charged with several felonies and misdemeanors, including ethnic

intimidation, terroristic threats, recklessly endangering another person, and institutional vandalism.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/07/26/justice/pennsylvania-camp-terror/index.html?hpt=ju_c2

45. *July 26, WSBT 22 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Storm prompts evacuation of Elkhart County Fair grandstands.** Fair officials in Elkhart County, Indiana, played it safe July 26 when they ordered the evacuation of the grandstands just ahead of a storm. They cited concerns about lightning. In August 2011, the stage at the Indiana State Fair collapsed during a storm, killing 7 people and injuring more than 50. The Elkhart County Fair used a private meteorological service to monitor weather this year. That was one of the recommendations an investigative commission made for the State Fair. Fair officials were not sure how many people were in the grandstands at the time of the evacuation, but it holds up to 6,000 people.

Source: <http://www.wsbt.com/news/wsbt-storm-prompt-evacuation-of-elkhart-county-fair-grandstands-20120726,0,7293509.story>

46. *July 26, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Man with gun threatens band campers in Prescott.** Authorities in northern Arizona were searching for an armed man who allegedly threatened members of a high school band practicing on a field late July 25. Yavapai County Sheriff's officials responded to a report of a gun-wielding man at the Emmanuel Pines Camp in Prescott. Witnesses said the man approached the group and told them to "stop making noise" at that hour of the night. They said the man brandished a handgun and at times pointed the weapon directly at band students and staff. When the man walked away, the 52-member band was escorted from the field and placed on lockdown.

Source: http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_northern_az/prescott/man-with-gun-threatens-band-campers-in-prescott#ixzz21peNVSS9

47. *July 26, WSYX 6 Columbus* – (Ohio) **Bomb threat investigation turns up pair of sneakers.** A bomb threat investigation turned up a pair of sneakers. Employees at the Eastland Mall in Columbus, Ohio, received two calls July 26, warning of a bomb on the premises. The mall was evacuated, and a bomb-detecting robot and dog were sent inside. Investigators eventually found a shoe box that appeared suspicious, but it was found to contain nothing more than a pair of sneakers. The evacuation lasted more than an hour.

Source:

http://www.abc6onyourside.com/shared/newsroom/top_stories/videos/wsyx_vid_18751.shtml

For more stories, see items [2](#) and [16](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

48. *July 26, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Crews work to contain wildfire in southwest Oklahoma.** Fire crews had a wildfire that burned about 15 square miles in southwestern Oklahoma 75 percent contained, the Oklahoma City Oklahoman reported July 26. A Comanche County Emergency Management Agency spokesman said in an email that crews from 15 fire departments had controlled the south and west sides of the blaze, and were focusing their efforts on preventing the flames on the north and east sides from spreading into the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Seventy-five to 100 homes were evacuated after the blaze began July 25 near Cooperton in Kiowa County. No buildings have burned, but the fire scorched across more than 9,000 acres, the spokesman said. Several firefighters were treated for heat exhaustion and released, he said.

Source: <http://newsok.com/crews-work-to-contain-wildfire-in-southwest-oklahoma/article/3695737>

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Dams Sector

49. *July 26, Nelson Star* – (International) **State of emergency lifted at Salmo tailing pond.** With sinkholes repaired and the slough area rebuilt around the Salmo, British Columbia, Canada, tailing pond at the HB mine dam site, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) lifted a state of emergency for the site July 26. The state of emergency was in effect since July 3. Saturated soil, caused by heavy rains, resulted in some seepage and initial slough, threatening the stability of the dam. The sinkhole developed below the usual high water mark, which is likely what caused the slope failure. Over the past 3 weeks, crews pumped water out of the dam and repaired the damage. Though the area is considered safe, there is still work to be done. The sloughed area will be reinforced with rock buttressing, and the RDCK was developing an ongoing dam monitoring and pond pumping protocol to keep water levels low while options for permanent pond decommissioning were investigated.

Source: <http://www.nelsonstar.com/news/163909736.html>

50. *July 26, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Corps to continue releases from Kansas reservoirs.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continued releasing water from three Kansas reservoirs despite a request from the State's governor to stop doing so. The Corps began the releases from the Milford, Perry, and Tuttle Creek reservoirs July 8 and said July 26 that they will continue until approximately August 7. The governor wanted the releases halted to help increase water resources in the drought-plagued State but the Corps said they are needed to provide navigation support on the Missouri River. The agency said it was required by federal regulations to help control the Missouri to avoid harming two species of endangered birds.

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/2012/07/26/3725800/corps-to-continue-releases-from.html>

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